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REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS  
OF THE  
MANDEL VENEZUELAN EXPEDITION

BY

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# REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS OF THE MANDEL VENEZUELAN EXPEDITION

BY KARL P. SCHMIDT

Thanks to the interest of Messrs. Leon Mandel II and Fred L. Mandel, Jr., Mr. Emmet R. Blake, field collector for the Mandel Venezuelan Expedition, was enabled to continue work in Venezuela after the return of the yacht *Buccaneer*, which carried the expedition from Miami to the Orinoco. Mr. Blake's principal objective during this period was Mount Turumquire, the most eastern outpost of the Venezuelan Andes in the Department of Sucre. While Mr. Blake's primary interest was in the collecting of birds, he preserved ninety-two specimens of reptiles and amphibians. These prove to represent twenty-four species of which no less than nine are new to Field Museum's collections, while two are new to science. The new frog has been named *Phyllobates mandelorum*, in honor of Messrs. Mandel, and the new lizard, *Anadia blakei*, associates Mr. Blake's name with the Mount Turumquire fauna, to the knowledge of which he has made an effective contribution.

## AMPHIBIA

### **Bufo marinus marinus** (Linnaeus).

An adult from Cumana and one from Cumanacoa represent the typical northern form of *Bufo marinus*, which lacks the elongate tibial gland characteristic of specimens from southern Brazil. Three freshly transformed individuals were collected at Cocollar, at an altitude of 3,600 feet.

### **Leptodactylus bolivianus** Boulenger.

Three specimens from Cocollar.

### **Eleutherodactylus gollmeri** (Peters).

Nine specimens, six from an altitude of 6,000 feet and three from 8,000 feet on Mount Turumquire. Identification of these specimens is provisional, requiring check against topotypes from Caracas.

### **Eleutherodactylus bicumulus** (Peters).

One specimen from altitude of 6,000 feet on Mount Turumquire. This identification also requires checking against the type or topo-typical material.

**Pleurodema brachyops** (Cope).

One specimen from Cocollar.

**Hyla crepitans** Wied.

Two specimens from Cocollar.

**Phyllobates trinitatis** Garman.

Ten specimens from an altitude of 5,000 feet on Mount Turumiquire.

**Phyllobates mandelorum** sp. nov.

*Type* from camp at altitude of 8,000 feet on Mount Turumiquire, Venezuela. No. 17788 Field Museum of Natural History. Collected March 7, 1932, by E. R. Blake.

*Diagnosis*.—No flash coloration; skin smooth; ventral surface light with large dark spots; no transverse bar on chest; first finger shorter than second; tympanum obscure; a broad irregular dark vertebral band on the light ground color of the back. Distinguished from *P. trinitatis* by its dorsal and ventral coloration and from *P. kingsburyi* by coloration and indistinct tympanum.

*Description of type*.—Snout rounded, as long as the longest diameter of the eye; nostrils near its tip; body stout, tibio-tarsal joint of the hind leg extended along the body reaching the eye.

Skin smooth above and below; tympanum close to the eye, only its anterior border distinguishable; first finger shorter than second; disks small, those of fingers slightly larger than those of toes; outer and inner metatarsal tubercles present, small.

Dorsum, including top of head, greenish silvery, sharply distinct from the chocolate-colored sides; a dark irregular vertebral band of the same color as the sides begins with an expansion between the eyes and extends nearly to the hind limbs; this band widens and encloses a light spot opposite the shoulders; the dark color of the sides extends around the snout; a silvery band on the upper jaw connects with the same color on the upper arm; border of upper jaw dark; a light line extends forward from the groin in the dark lateral band; anterior face of thighs with a lengthwise dark band, which is not reached by the broad dark bars of the upper and posterior surfaces; tibia barred; ventral surfaces light with obscure darker spots, with no trace of the dark band across the chest which characterizes *Phyllobates trinitatis*.

*Measurements.*—Length of body 26 mm.; greatest width of head 8.5 mm.; arm 17 mm.; leg 38.5 mm.

*Notes on paratype.*—The single paratype, F.M.N.H. No. 17789, from the same locality as the type, is in excellent agreement with the above description.

**Rana palmipes** Spix.

Three specimens from Cumanacoa.

**REPTILIA**

**Anolis chrysolepis** Duméril and Bibron.

One specimen from Cocollar.

**Polychrus marmoratus** (Linnaeus).

Three specimens from Cocollar.

**Tropidurus torquatus hispidus** (Spix).

Four specimens from Cocollar.

**Ameiva ameiva melanocephala** Barbour and Noble.

Two specimens from Cumanacoa are topotypes of this well-characterized subspecies, and four more were collected at Cocollar.

**Cnemidophorus lemniscatus lemniscatus** (Linnaeus).

Eight specimens from Cumanacoa and eight from Cocollar.

**Anadia blakei** sp. nov.

*Type* from camp at altitude of 5,000 feet on Mount Turumíquire, Venezuela. No. 17795 Field Museum of Natural History. Adult female. Collected March 10, 1932, by E. R. Blake.

*Diagnosis.*—Allied to *Anadia bitaeniata* in character of head shields, but distinguished by the lower number of scales around the body and of transverse rows of dorsals; four supraoculars; twenty-eight scales around the body; thirty-three to thirty-four from the occipitals to the second postanal row.

*Description of type.*—An *Anadia* with slender snout, stout body, and limbs slightly overlapping when adpressed.

Frontonasal longer than broad; prefrontals forming a short median suture; four supraoculars, the first smallest, fused with the adjacent supraciliary on one side; frontal six-sided, larger than the

interparietal; two frontoparietals, their suture half the length of the frontal; two parietals, a little smaller than the interparietal; a group of three occipitals on each side behind the parietals; in the first transverse row of nuchals the scales are longer than broad; nasal entire; a single loreal; six labials above and below; a median and four pairs of chin shields, the first two pairs in contact; eight scales in collar; fourteen scales from collar to chin shields; twenty-eight scales around mid-body; thirty-four scales from occipitals to second postanal ring; six preanals in the posterior row, four in the anterior; no preanal pores; four femoral pores on each side.

Uniform brown above, paler beneath.

*Measurements*.—Length from snout to anus 91 mm.; from snout to posterior border of ear 19 mm.; width of head 11 mm.; length of arm 21.5 mm.; of leg 29.5 mm.; tail broken.

*Notes on paratype*.—The single paratype comes from an altitude of 6,000 feet on Mount Turumiquire. It has thirty-three scales from occipitals to second postanal row, and three femoral pores on each side. In other scale characters it agrees closely with the type.

*Remarks*.—*Anadia blakei* is close to *A. nicefori* Loveridge, from Colombia, in numbers of body scales and femoral pores, while in arrangement of head shields it is related to *A. bitaeniata* Boulenger. The description of the present form is much facilitated by Loveridge's recent résumé of the genus (1929).

#### *Tretioscincus bifasciatus* (Duméril).

A single specimen from Cumana.

#### *Amphisbaena alba* Linnaeus.

Two specimens from Cocoliar.

#### *Mabuya nigropalmata* Andersson.

Two specimens from Mount Turumiquire, at altitude of 6,000 feet. Burt and Burt (1931, p. 302) record this species from Mount Turumiquire. The Venezuelan specimens should be compared with topotypes from Amazonas to confirm this identification.

#### *Drymobius boddaertii* (Sentzen).

Two specimens. F.M.N.H. No. 17837, male, from 6,000 feet on Mount Turumiquire, has 184 ventrals and 87 subcaudals; No. 17838, female, from Cocoliar, has 188 and 106.

**Dromicus reginae** (Linnaeus).

Four specimens from Mount Turumquire, at altitude of 6,000 feet. F.M.N.H. No. 17834, male, has 142 ventrals, tail incomplete; No. 17833, female, has 140 ventrals and 82 subcaudals; No. 17835, female, has 139 and 83; and No. 17836, female, has 143 and 87.

**Atractus lasallei** Amaral.

The single specimen referred to this recently described species was collected at 6,000 feet on Mount Turumquire (F.M.N.H. No. 17832, male). It has 164 ventrals and 29 subcaudals. It agrees so closely with Amaral's description of *Atractus lasallei* in coloration as well as in scale characters that without additional material for comparison, it must be so identified. *A. lasallei* comes from the Department of Antioquia, Colombia.

**Pseudoboa neuwiedii** (Duméril and Bibron).

One specimen, F.M.N.H. No. 17830, female, with 189 ventrals and 87 subcaudals, from Piacoa, Amacuro.

**Pseudoboa guerini** (Duméril and Bibron).

One specimen, F.M.N.H. No. 17831, female, with 202 ventrals and 74 subcaudals, from Cocollar.

**Oxybelis acuminatus** (Wied).

Two specimens from Cocollar. F.M.N.H. No. 17839, female, has 176 ventrals, and No. 17840, male, has 186. The tail is incomplete in both.

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